

RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

Wyoming Board of Agriculture Minutes August 2, 2006 Conference Call

Members Present:

Spencer Ellis, President
Jack Corson, Vice President
David Graham
Gene Hardy
John Etchepare, Director, WY Dept. of Agriculture
Paige Smith, Governor Freudenthal's Office
Dalin Winters
David Largent

Members Absent:

Jim Mickelson
Helen Jones
Lee Otto
Patrick Zimmerer
Emily Horton
Frank Galey, Dean, UW College of Agriculture

WDA Staff Present:

Muff Parker, Recording Secretary
Jim Schwartz

Issues

Muff talked about the Living Legacy Program.

John indicated the SLAG would be bringing new pricing list to the Board at their August meeting in Douglas.

He informed the members of Barney's upcoming interview with the Nebraska State Fair and the upcoming arrival of Chad Curry as the new ADMB administrator.

Jim Schwartz talked about the BLM permits around state being cut off early due to the drought. Spencer said the same thing is happening with the FS permits. The permittees are having to leave about a month early and the hay prices (if available) are sky high. It is going to force more livestock going to market, which is not going to do a thing for the producers. Jim also talked about several producers losing fencing due to the fires and where hoping to find some help in replacing them. Jim said to this point there were several counties that had not sent in a request to the Governor's office for drought declarations. He emphasized the importance of this process because there may be some relief later and if they have not submitted their request, they may not be eligible. Paige Smith indicated all but the following counties had submitted their requests to the Governor. Those are Washakie, Campbell, Crook, Weston, Teton, Fremont, and Niobrara. Some of those states are considered contiguous, but that does not qualify them for the programs, etc. available to those counties who receive the declaration. John recently visited with the surrounding state during the WASDA meeting in Colorado and since they are, for the most part, in the same shape as Wyoming, there is no place for Wyoming cattle to go. Paige said the Governor's office is hoping to hear from the Secretary by mid September on the requests.

John said some questions had come up about all the paperwork required with the new ADMB funding and said their request can include administrative support. Jim Schwartz said some of the

Predatory Boards were interested in sharing staff between them. There is a meeting scheduled for August 10 at the Parkway Plaza beginning at 10 a.m. Jim is planning to attend a meeting August 25 with the Wyoming Water Development Commission. He is sending information out for review prior to the meeting. He is very interested in seeing the small water projects work. He is also sending formation out regarding the problems with the grizzly bear and wolf.

There being no additional business. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Spencer Ellis, President

Date